

New paths for a better cooperation between judiciary and police in the field of fight against drug trafficking - exchange of best practices-

Program

This seminar is organized by the Judicial Training Institute (Belgium) in conjunction with the European Judicial Training Network (EJTN), the Federal Police of Belgium and National police of the Netherlands, l'Ecole Nationale de la Magistrature de France (ENM), Ministry of Justice of Luxemburg and with financial support from the European Commission's Directorate-General for Justice (Specific Programme 'Criminal Justice 2014-2020). [Ref.: INT/2015.107](#)

Target public

Prosecutors, judges and police officers dealing in their daily practice with drug trafficking

Context

Europe is a major destination for controlled substances and also plays a role as a transit point for drugs and routes to other regions. Moreover, Europe is also a producing region for cannabis and synthetic drugs.

The globalization, use of information technologies, new drugs in the shape of new psychoactive substances that are not controlled under international drug control treaties and different routes to transport of drugs makes a more coherent and effective approach necessary.

Therefore better and practical ways have to be found to make a better and efficient cooperation possible between the police and the judiciary in order to cope with the more fluid, dynamic and organized drug trafficking.

It is crucial that representatives of both groups of different member states can meet each other in a practice oriented-mixed training session in order to:

- a) learn about the **international and European framework** on drugs trafficking and the efforts which have been taken on this level
- b) learn about **different policy options** in the different member states and the national tools which are being used.
- c) analyze if current approaches suffice where **gaps** remain and identify **obstacles**

- d) work on **practical cases and solutions** to understand the practical approach of the member states so the best practices can be identified.
- e) create a **platform/network** which makes it possible to contact each other to make a more efficient approach possible while fighting against transnational trafficking.

General objectives:

- To provide legal practitioners/professionals and police officers from EU Member States with the relevant knowledge and skills to explore the possibilities to a better implementation of existing proceedings in their member states;
- To develop networking and cooperation between them while dealing and solving concrete cases by exchanging best practices to contribute to the development of transferable best practices.

Specific objectives:

- **a training objective**, implemented through customized training modules and tools, offline and online, developed specifically for the project ;
- **mutual learning**, exchange of good practice objective, implemented through discussion and exchange of best practices and concrete case studies. Disseminated best practices, recommendations: a project website is created, presenting the project conclusions and content of the training to a broader audience of individual practitioners and institutions will increase the training impact and spreading of knowledge, thereby ensuring sustainability of the project outcomes.
- **a cooperation objective** implemented through the organization of a European event and the set-up of training modules, a virtual platform for information and exchange.
- **Piloting the training results and adapting them where** necessary by regular meeting of the practitioners
- The sustainability will be also assured by integrating the developed modules in the context of the national partners own training programs and by the e-learning program, which will be made available on the website together with the e-book.

Preparation

Participants will make following **steps**:

- To attend an online preparatory phase preparing for the theoretical part on the legal framework and the international treaties you need to know
- To share practices and knowledge about drugs related agencies by way of a discussion platform on the website
- attendance to the international conference of 2 and half days build on different modules

- attendance to 2 different workshops with the practitioners working on practical cases

Dates & venue

From Monday 11 April 2016 (starting at 19:00) to Thursday 14 April 2016 (ending at 14:30)

in Antwerp, Belgium : seminar center Elzenveld: www.elzenveld.be

Comments

- The working languages of the seminar are **English and French**, with simultaneous interpretation.
- The number of participants is limited to **40 Belgian** judges, public prosecutors and police officers and **50** judges and public prosecutors, police officers from the other **Member States** and **candidate countries**.
- The participants can consult the appropriate **documentation** related to the subject on the website of the project. The institute has a paperless-policy whereby only for exceptional cases (like practical exercises) hard-copy documentation is provided. Because of this, we ask the participants to bring their own device (laptop or tablet computer) by which they can consult the documentation.

Preparation and documentation

Ahead of the conference:

A website will be available for the participants. It will include:

- practical information in order to help them prepare their attendance to the current issues he conference.
- a scientific **toolkit** (major legal texts, factsheets, hyperlinks, bibliography...);
- a **discussion forum** allowing participants to ask questions and exchange observations about practical tools.
- work on practical cases, which they will have to solve from their national perspective and return before the conference to a scientific committee;
- communicate their expectations for the conference (training need assessment).

After the conference:

- the website will be fed with the conference report and e- book

Program of the seminar

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Rapporteur: **Tatiana Kazadi Tshikala**, Academic Assistant, PhD Researcher, IRCP

1. Monday 11 April 2016

During the afternoon and evening: arrival of the participants at the seminar centre

18:30 Check-in

19:00 Welcome by **Raf Van Ransbeeck**, director of the Belgian Institute of Judicial training, and reception

19:30 Dinner

2. Tuesday 12 April 2016

08:30-09:00 Check-in

Introduction

09:00 Opening of the seminar, welcome of the participants and overview of the three days of the conference by **Raf Van Ransbeeck**, director of the Belgian Institute of Judicial Training

09:00-09:05 Short introduction - movie about a clockwork orange

09:05-09:10 Introduction to the new challenges and new criminal conducts on drugs
To be confirmed: Commissioner Dimitris Avramopoulos

Drugs trafficking: the current issues and future challenges on the European scene

- 09:10-09:50 The European Drug Report 2015: Current issues on drug trafficking: new drugs, new users, new policies? By Mr. **Roumen Sedefov**, Head of unit Supply reduction and new drugs (EMCDDA)
- 09:50-10:30 Framework of Agencies active in Europe in the fight against drugs. Their specific role and priorities and policy in the fight against drugs by **Claude Gillard**, legal adviser in the Directorate general of Legislation of the Belgian Ministry of justice
- 10:30-10:50 Coffee break

START OF THREE ROUND TABLES WITH DISCUSSIONS

10:50-13:00 Round table I : “New substances”

- Moderation and introduction by Mr. **Jean-Baptiste Andries**, prosecutor at the prosecutor’s office of the court of appeal of Liège in Belgium and member of the scientific committee of this project
- 10:50-11:20 The Early warning system of EMCDDA by Mr. **Roumen Sedefov**, Head of unit Supply reduction and new drugs (EMCDDA)
- 11:20-11:40 The politional approach of new psychoactive substances by **Daniel Dudek**, Europol Focal Point Synergy (tbc)
- 11:40-12:05 The policy of the public prosecutor office and the cooperation with the police on New psychoactive substances (NSP) by **Nicole van de Waterbeemd**, Senior Legal Assistant to the Public Prosecutor at the Nation Public Prosecutor’s Office, the Netherlands
- 12:05-12:30 Psychoactive Substances (NPS) – Legislative challenges & Principles of a generic approach: by **Greet Declerck**, member of the Belgian Federal agency for medicines and health products – FAHMP
- 12:30-13:00 Question time and conclusions by **Jean-Baptiste Andries** prosecutor at the prosecutor’s office of the court of appeal of Liège in Belgium and member of the scientific committee of this project
- 13:00-14:30 Lunch time

14:30-17:00 **Round table II: “New investigation methods”**

Moderating and introduction by **Prof. Silvia Allegrezza**, Associate Professor of Criminal Law, Faculté de Droit, d'Economie et de Finance Université du Luxembourg and member of the scientific committee of this project

- 14:30-14:50 Interception of communication by Michèle Coninx , Eurojust (tbc)
- 14:50-15:10 The availability of data and protection of data , (Europol or Interpol) tbc
- 15:10-15:30 Scanners and X-rays and other detection methods used by the customs by Director James Bastiaense (tbc)
- 15:30-15:45 Coffee break
- 15:45-16:10 New approaches in the fight against drugs trafficking by mean of Financial investigations by **Stephen Almaseanu**, representative of AGRASC (Agence de Gestion et de Recouvrement des Avoir Saisis et Confisqués)
- 16:10-16:30 Wastewater analysis as complementary approach for estimating illicit drug consumption by **Alexander van Nuijs** , lecturer at the University of Antwerp
- 16:30-17:00 Discussion time on these and other new methods and conclusions by **Prof. Silvia Allegrezza**

3. Wednesday 13 April 2016

09:00-10:30 **Round table III : “Drug related cyber traffic”**

Moderator: **Michel Bruneau**, Project manager at Belgian Federal Police - International Police Cooperation and member of the scientific committee of this project

- 09:00-09:20 New challenges on the cyberfield related to drugs (tbc)
- 09:20-09:40 Use of new technologies(bitcoins, darknet, express services) and how to fight against this new challenges. **Scott A. Albrecht**, Country Attaché, United State Department of Justice Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)
- 09:40- 10:00 Presentation of the the drugs monitoring platform of UNODC, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, by **Michael Osman**, Programme Management Officer, Statistics and Surveys Section, UNODC

- 10:00-10:30 Question time and conclusions by **Michel Bruneau**
- 10:30-10:40 Methodology of the workshops
- 10:40-11:00 Coffee break

START OF THE WORKSHOPS

- 11:00-12:30 Start of the four workshops (introduction to the workshop will be made by its moderator)
- 12:30-13:00 Report in plenary
- 13:00-14:00 Lunch
- 14:10-15:50 Start of the four workshops (introduction to the workshop will be made by its moderator)
- 15:50-16:15 Coffee break
- 16:15-16:45 Report in plenary
- 16:45-17:15 Question time and conclusions of the workshop by the member of the Scientific Committee

Content of the workshops

- Workshop 1** Drugs trafficking incoming through the harbor or airports in Europe
(EMPACT SD - OAP 3) (tbc)
- Workshop 2** Organized Crime Groups that set up cannabis plantations
Under supervision of **John Kiers**, coordinator Zeeland – West Brabant Police department on "cannabis"
- Workshop 3** Cross border cooperation in connection to drugs related problems in border areas.
Under supervision of Madam **Marian Capelle**, Federal Prosecutor Office Belgium
- Workshop 4** Approach of the end users
Under supervision of Mr. **Jean-Baptiste Andries** (FR- ENG translation foreseen)

4- Thursday 14 April 2016

Chair of the day: **Prof. Silvia Allegrezza**

09:00-10:00 Outcomes of the workshops

The two rapporteurs of each similar workshop will give a short common presentation of the conclusion of the working group during 10 minutes in the plenary session.

10:00-10:15 Question time

10:15-10:40 Coffee break

Best Practices in the European Landscape

10:40-12:10 Remarkable "best" practices in the European landscape: (+/- 20 min per person)

- Belgium: "The drugtreatment court" – **Alexandra De Moor**, Deputy Public Prosecutor, Gent
- Netherlands: "Gewapend bestuur" cooperation between police and civil services of public administrations – **René Nuijten**, Integral program leader, Zeeland – West Brabant Police department
- Cooperation between the Belgian Customs and the French police and custom service CCPD (comité central police douane) **Director James Bastiaense** (tbc)
- Portugal: Depenalisation of the use (abolishment of the criminal responsibility of the individual user) and care of users under control of Public health. **Júlio Barbosa e Silva**-, public prosecutor, Portugal
- UK: Care off users under control of the Ministry of Justice and not Public Health (tbc)
- Belgium : Scientific support by BELSPO : **Aziz Naji**, BELPSO
- The Danish drug treatment policy: the Opioid substitution treatment (OST) (tbc)
- The calculation of the revenue generated from illicit cannabis plantations, based on scientific studies" of **Benny Van Camp**, Judicial Commissioner, Head of Drugs production Desk (tbc)

12:10-12:30 Floor to the participants : Other suggestions of best practices and failing practices

12:30-14:00 Lunch

14:00-14:30 Recommendations for a better cooperation presented by **Tatiana Kazadi Tshikala** , Academic Assistant, PhD Researcher, IRCP

14:30 End of the seminar